

A HISTORY
OF THE
TOWN OF AMES,
STORY COUNTY, IOWA;

TOGETHER WITH A BRIEF
DESCRIPTION OF THE SURROUNDING COUNTRY,

AND THE

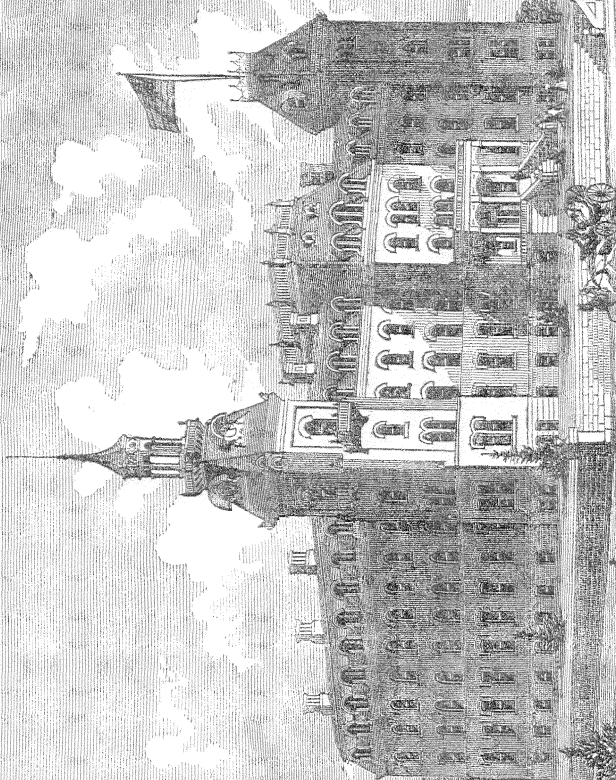
Iowa State Agricultural College,

LOCATED AT AMES.

AMES, IOWA:

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1871.



STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE,
AMES, IOWA.

INTRODUCTORY.

The publication of this little work is not designed merely to advertise our town and county, but in addition, to supply an ever attendant want of that class of persons who contemplate a removal from the east, and a settlement in what is yet termed, the west.—Nor does the writer hereof intend to indulge in flowery description at the expense of truth, or to make a point by invidious comparison. Each section of country in the west no doubt possesses natural advantages, which, to one uninformed as to other sections, seem peculiar to itself, yet it may perhaps be truthfully conceded that in the range of country stretching from the “Father of Waters” on the east, to the dividing mountain range of the continent on the west, these apparent advantages are much more evenly distributed than is generally supposed, or than most people are willing to admit.

Believing that the Town of Ames, and its immediate vicinity, offer to incoming settlers such inducements as will satisfy all reasonable expectations or desires, I engage in the present duty with a large degree of confidence—not in my ability to disguise unpleasant facts by clothing them in unmeaning language—but from a conviction that the plain, unvarnished truth will give expression to all that need be said upon the subject I propose to treat.

The contradictions in American character are in no case more strikingly exemplified, than in the heedlessness and want of calculating foresight usually attending emigration. We are far past the period, when the removal of families, or the exodus of a people is directed by the divine hand. For the “cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night,” must be substituted such knowledge as we may possess, aided by sound judgment and common sense.

Measurably no doubt the apparent indifference to consequences to which we have referred, may be attributed to that self-confidence so natural, and we may add, so peculiar to the native citizen of our country. Men, who among their fellows, are regarded as shrewd

and close calculating, and who seldom engage in an every day business transaction without careful study and mature thought, determining at length to change their "local habitation," gather together their domestic treasures and "household Gods," and away to the famed Eldorado of the west. How many disappointments; how much of physical and mental suffering; how much discouragement and unhappiness, and oftentimes despair and ruin might be obviated were these changes on which usually depend the interests of a lifetime undertaken with, and guided by, such intelligence and knowledge as men usually demand to justify the more than ordinary transactions of life.

It is too often the case that rich and productive soil is the one thing sought in a new country, and while it is true that it is a desideratum, yet how lightly should this weigh when placed in the balance with other considerations. A salubrious climate is of greater value than the alluvial deposits of ages; and of what consequence is it that a country is rich in all those productions, which so largely contribute to the sum of human enjoyment, if it is also fruitful in miasma and other health destroying influences.

But paramount to all else, except health are religious and social privileges, and educational interests. Poor indeed must that man be, who receives his full measure of happiness from material things, yet without opportunities, how hopeless the longing for social enjoyment or mental culture, and how remote the prospect of satisfying spiritual aspirations.

As a reliable and truthful guide to those seeking homes in the west, the few practical hints embodied in these pages, together with an imperfect history of our thrifty and pleasant town, and a description of its surroundings is submitted. Though far from perfect, it will yet, we trust, be found sufficiently full and specific as to afford all needed knowledge of this locality except such as can only be obtained by actual personal observation.

STORY COUNTY.

The County of Story, is situated near the geographical center of the State of Iowa, and embraces within its limits, five hundred and seventy-six square miles of territory, or three hundred and sixty-eight thousand six hundred and forty acres of land. Fully one-fifth of the surface is covered with timber. The black prairie abounds, of rich soil and very productive. The county is well watered—in the east and central parts by the east and west Indian creeks, and in the western part by the Skunk river and Squaw creek, and their numerous tributaries. The Skunk river affords many excellent water powers, several of which have already been utilized.

WATER AND TIMBER.

The streams are all bordered by belts of fine timber, those along the Skunk and Squaw being quite extensive—in many places taking the character of dense forests. Here abound white and black Oak, black Walnut, Butternut, Basswood, Hackberry, red and white Elm and several other varieties or excellent timber.

Probably three-fourths of the timber in the county, grows along the Skunk and Squaw, and the streams making into them, being mostly within the two western tiers of townships. In many parts of the county springs of pure water are found, and everywhere within its borders this luxury may be reached at a depth of from ten to twenty-five feet—cold and sparkling. The surface of nearly the entire county is gently rolling, sufficiently so to afford almost perfect natural drainage, a peculiarity not often met with in prairie districts, and one, the value of which can hardly be over estimated.

COAL, STONE QUARRIES, AND BRICK.

Within ten miles of the western line of Story county we strike the vast coal fields of the Des Moines Valley. This latter fact is

important, as giving warrant for a bountiful, convenient, and cheap supply of fuel for all coming time. The quality of this coal is unsurpassed by any soft coal in the western country—indeed it compares favorably with the best bituminous coal known to the eastern trade. There is but little doubt that large deposits of this useful and valuable commodity underlie a large portion of Story county—and that within a few years, our citizens will be supplied almost at their own doors at a merely nominal expense.

All along the Skunk, quarries of excellent building stone have been opened which are worked, up to the local demand. During the last year several brick yards have been established in different parts of the county, where brick of an excellent quality are made, and sold at reasonable figures.

CLIMATIC.

The climate of Story county is remarkably salubrious, which fact, taken in connection with our excellent natural drainage exempts us from that class of disease peculiar to the west. Cases of fever and ague, that justly dreaded scourge of western settlers, are unknown amongst us except as they are brought by immigrants from Michigan, Indiana, and Illinois, and these cases, quickly yield to our pure air and healthy climate, without the aid of medication.

FIRST SETTLEMENT OF STORY COUNTY.

The first permanent white settlement in Story County was made in 1848—less than twenty-three years ago. In the spring of 1853 the organization of the county took place, and at the first election held therein 63 votes were cast. The first term of our District Court, was held in the month of August, 1854, Hon. J. C. McFarland of the 5th Judicial District presiding. This court was held in a one story log cabin, 20 feet square, situated in what is now Milford township. In this primitive temple of Justice the good people of Story County then met, to submit their differences for adjudication by the ministers of the law. The array of legal talent there present, was meagre, if we are to judge from the fact that only three attorney's put in an appearance. Seven neophytes of the law were, however, admitted to practice at this term of court, thus giving unfortunate litigants warrant that their legal interests should not suffer for lack of proper looking after. History makes no further mention of this corps of learned men justifying us in leaving them in nameless obscurity.

COUNTY SEAT.

In June 1853, the county seat was located by commissioners appointed for that purpose, at what is now Nevada, and the first settlement in that embryo city was made in October of that year by T. E. Alderman—the next settler being J. H. McLain, Esq., now, and for some years, a citizen and active business man in our own town of Ames. In 1856, the first Court House in the county was erected. In December 1863, this structure was burned, entailing a heavy loss upon the county in addition to the value of the building. In 1864, the present court house was built, and during the summer of 1870 a Jail, at an expense for the latter structure of some six thousand dollars. The court house though small, in comparison with some others in the Judicial District, is convenient and will answer the requirements of the county for some years to come. The new jail is a brick edifice of tasteful proportions, and is said to be much easier of access than of egress.

PRESS OF STORY COUNTY.

The Press of Story County is perhaps deserving of historic record. The first newspaper was established in the spring of 1850 by R. R. Thrall, who continued its publication until sometime in 1863. It was called "The Story County Advocate." In 1863 it passed into the hands, and under the editorial management of Geo. F. Schoonover, who being of military proclivities, if not experience, re-christened his new responsibility—calling it the "Reveille." Shortly after, the paper again changed hands coming under the control of J. M. Brainard, who run the "Machine," mongrel in politics, until November 1868, when it was purchased by V. A. Ballou, who being of small stature, and peaceful nature again changed its name, calling it "The Ægis," and sitting behind its ample protection—*made it pay*. In the summer of 1870 he sold to the present proprietor W. H. Gallup, Esq., who again re-christened the many named bantling, as the "Representative." A paper having endured, and safely passed the pains and dangers attending a half dozen births and deaths, surely merits immortality.

In 1863 the "Nevada Democrat" was started under the editorial charge of E. B. Potter, Esq. During a precarious existence of two years it struggled hard for life. It is the only instance within our knowledge, that our boasted climate has not produced a healthful influence on a sick patient. But this thing came of a political

parentage, as its name indicates, in which rottenness constantly reproduces itself, and death leaves no hope of resurrection. It passed from life in 1865.

In May, 1869, A. McFadden, formerly of Morrison, Illinois, commenced the publication of a weekly journal at our town of Ames, styled *The Ames Intelligencer*. In spite of the bitter opposition of the "organ" at the county seat, it may now be pronounced an established success. It is still owned and conducted by its founder, and will receive a more extended notice in another portion of this work. The foregoing comprises a full list of newspapers published in Story County since its organization.

FRUIT.

Iowa is destined to take front rank among the fruit growing states of our country. The impression which had formerly been quite generally entertained, that fruit could not be profitably cultivated in prairie countries, has been corrected by the tests of experience. Illinois is already celebrated as one of the best fruit growing districts in the west, and Iowa, with like soil and nearly same climate, has the advantage of a more rolling and perfectly drained surface. In no country on the globe are finer or more perfect apples grown than Iowa produces. We have no statistics at hand, indicating the amount or value of the apple crop of last year, but the census report of 1869 gives the aggregate crop of that year at 660,000 bushels, and this while only about one-fifth of the nearly 6,000,000 trees reported were in bearing. Plums, cherries, currants, grapes, sweet potatoes, and all the small fruits, and berries grow luxuriantly, and mature in great perfection. Wild plums, grapes, and berries grow in all parts of the state in great abundance. In all these productions of fruit, Story county is not excelled by any other county in the state, as experience is yearly demonstrating. The show of fruit at our fairs, is already a marked feature of those exhibitions, and it is past doubt that nothing is needed, but judicious selection of varieties, and careful cultivation, to make Iowa independent of other states for her supply of fruit, and also to give her a place among those states which must supply less favored districts of our country.

SOIL AND SURFACE.

The soil of Story County is generally of a dark loam of exceeding fertility, underlaid with a subsoil of clay and gravel. Experi-

ence has proven this soil rich in all those properties required to produce the cereals and the different grasses. The wild grass on the high prairie grows luxuriantly, affording excellent natural pasturage, and an abundant supply of hay of a superior quality. While our cultivated lands yield large crops of corn and the small grains, our soil and climate seem especially adapted to the raising of stock. For years to come, the wild pasturage will afford a scarcely diminished supply of summer food for cattle, and the time is far distant when the product of the excellent prairie hay will be materially lessened. Timothy and clover have been tried sufficiently to establish the fact that if not strictly indigenous, they are easy of introduction, and make certain and rapid growth. Settlers from the "Blue Grass" districts of Kentucky and southern Indiana, pronounce our soil and climate, exactly adapted to the growth of that highly valued grass, which opinion, experience here has gone far to corroborate.

Although the surface of the county is generally slightly rolling, very few sections are so broken as to forbid easy cultivation, as is the case in many of the counties nearer the Missouri river. As before remarked, natural drainage is the rule, and there is no portion of the county where artificial drainage may not be accomplished, by a very small outlay of labor. These facilities for relieving the surface of surplus water should receive great consideration from all settlers in a prairie country, as on the accomplishment of this result, very largely depends not only health, but also the productiveness of the soil.

The valleys near the streams are not deep, and therefore the belts of timber can be plainly seen at a great distance. The alternate stretches of prairie and timber here met with are very pleasing to the eye, especially when the forests are dressed in their summer habiliments of green, and the prairies are decked with, their variegated flowery carpets: In the winter these belts of timber, break the bleak prairie winds, and along their borders, stock at all seasons finds a perfect and ever grateful shelter.

HISTORY OF AMES.

The pen of the historian is not needed to demonstrate the truth of the proposition that railroads have done more for the settlement, development, and we may add civilization of the west than all other agencies combined. A comparison of facts within the reach of every intelligent man, justifies this conclusion. For many years, indeed, until within a comparatively short period of time, the settlements of our own State were almost entirely confined to those districts bordering on the Mississippi and Missouri rivers.—The section of country in which we live, was one of those localities, farthest from, and the last to expect benefits from those lines of communication. For many years after the first settlement in this vicinity, the country was doomed to all the languishments and vicissitudes incident to an inland point, without means of egress to the outside world.

The writer hereof passed through this region during the winter of '57, and '58—making the journey from the Mississippi to the Missouri by stage. At that time, settlements were only met with at long intervals, being almost uniformly confined to the immediate vicinity of the timber along the streams. Day after day the eye was met by the broad expanse of unsettled prairie. Occasionally some one more reckless than his fellows had pitched his tent in the open prairie, where the mud hut, with sod or thatch roof, gave little promise of health or domestic comfort. Hogs and cattle roamed without restraint, and huge cribs of corn gave ample evidence of a rich, productive soil.

At that day the mission of railroads was but imperfectly understood, and the lumbering stage coach was, year after year, daily dragged through the mud or snow across the State, and the passage from river to river was more dreaded, and at some seasons of the year, attended with greater suffering and danger than one now is likely to encounter journeying to Seward's paradise—the Elysium fields of Alaska. The agricultural products of the country were valueless, or nearly so; the necessaries of life hard to be obtain-

ed; the luxuries unknown in the humble experience of the half nomadic settler. The hand of nature had formed a country beautiful beyond compare, and its richness in organic functions exceeded if possible its glowing beauties. Hidden within the earth's bosom, was hypothetical wealth beyond computation in value, only awaiting development to take material shape.

At length, like a special providence, the Chicago and Northwestern railway came to their relief. No section of country along the line of this road, has received benefits more opportune as to time, or greater in degree from this corporation than has the county of Story. With the opening of this thoroughfare came restored intercourse with the outside world, so long suspended,—the daily mail—the visitation of friends, and, not least needed or valued of all, the influx of hardy immigrants, seeking western homes. While we so freely and so justly condemn the rapacious greed of these soulless corporations, their frequent and persistent robbery of the people, let us not forget the benefits they confer, nor grudge them their merited meed of credit. The Chicago and Northwestern railroad passes east and west through the county very near its center. On its line in Story county are the villages of Colo, Nevada, AMES and Ontario. It was finished to Ames in October 1864, but regular freight and passenger trains did not commence running until the following June.

While towns already established along the line of the road were inspired with new life by its completion, the village of Ames was one of its creations. Prior to the location of this road the tract of country where Ames now is was only known by its description in the government survey, and only noted as a strip of excellent land near the college farm. The town was laid out in the fall of 1864 by the "Railroad King" of Iowa, Hon. John I. Blair, of Blairstown, New Jersey, President of the Cedar Rapids and Missouri River Rail Road Co. The first house erected in the town was built by Noah Webster in October of that year. Mr. W. is still a citizen here occupying the house spoken of.

The town takes its name from Hon. Oakes Ames of Massachusetts, a man of world-wide notoriety and an active pioneer in western railroad enterprise. He has always manifested a lively interest in the improvement and welfare of his western namesake, which has taken practical and material shape upon more than one occasion. On the opening of the road to this point in 1865, H. F.

Kingsbury came as local agent, discharging at the same time the rather *onerous* duties of Express Agent. Mr. Kingsbury soon engaged in mercantile pursuits, and was the first postmaster appointed at this place, the duties of which position he continued to discharge in an acceptable manner until the spring of 1869, when, by a turn of the political wheel, he was superceded by the present incumbent.

From 1865 until the fall of 1867 the growth of Ames was not rapid. During the latter year the building of a north and south railroad to Des Moines, which had for some time been contemplated, took practical shape. At the legislative session of '67 and '68, an act was passed, authorizing cities, towns, and counties through which contemplated railroads were to pass, to aid by tax in the construction of such roads. Nearly simultaneous with the passage of this act the Iowa and Minnesota railroad company was organized, and taxes to aid in the construction of that part of the line between Ames and Des Moines—32 miles—were voted by the people of those places, and by some of the intermediate towns. Quite a large amount of material aid was also received by subscription at these points, and those directly interested in the enterprise saw in near prospect the fruition of their long cherished hopes. Early in the fall of 1868 the grading of the road from Ames to Polk City, in Polk county, was undertaken by a respectable corps of men under the guidance and control of contractors of supposed probity and energy. With the grading of the road, the collection of taxes and subscriptions also progressed, and already our citizens saw, in imagination, direct railroad connection with the capital of our State. But alas! our daily experiences teach us the oft forgotten lesson that

"The best laid schemes of mice and men
Gang aft agley,
And leave us naught but grief and pain
For promised joy."

A few short weeks brought to honest men the unwelcome conviction that they had been victimized. Those having charge of the work seemed to ignore the fact that the laborer is worthy of his hire. Few payments were made for labor or supplies, and within three months from the commencement of work on the line, the thing collapsed, with many operators unpaid and disgusted, and the contracting company hopelessly bankrupt. Meantime the prospect of the early completion of this important railroad connec-

tion had stimulated immigration, and during the summer and fall of 1868, Ames had made a rapid growth, and the surrounding country had large additions to its settlers. Business of all descriptions was brisk, and as a consequence times good. Real estate both in town and country was in active demand, and but for the unfortunate failure in completing the road our future growth and prosperity would have been assured. Even during the early part of the succeeding year, business continued good, and the more sanguine among us predicted the early resumption of operations on the road—and the representations of the rascally contractors served to strengthen this hope. But the conviction was at length forced upon us, that the enterprise was ended so far as agencies then at work were concerned. With this conclusion the speculative feeling engendered by our now disappointed expectations, gave place to a more healthy condition, and our citizens turned their attention to, and placed their hopes upon, those *real* advantages by which they were surrounded, and which until now had been to some extent obscured by the glamour of the "Iowa & Minnesota" R. R. project. The I. & M. railroad company is gathered to its fathers; the contractors who deceived and robbed us are scattered by the four winds of heaven; but this enterprise—though disastrous as relates to itself—was of great benefit to this section of country in this respect; it brought us many first-class settlers, in addition to directing the attention of others to the many local advantages we enjoy. The consequence has been a healthy growth to our town, and a rapid improvement in the surrounding country. New farms have been opened in all directions during the last two years. Nor have the hopes of the husbandmen been disappointed. Crops of all descriptions, notwithstanding the extreme drought of the last season, and the constant floods of the year before, have been good; and all classes are convinced that if not blessed with abundance it is not the fault of our soil. Indeed, experience has proven it more easy of cultivation, and fully as productive as the famed Illinois prairies.

The wheat marketed at Ames, of the crop of 1870, is of excellent quality, while the average yield per acre was fully up to that of other sections of our country.

The present population of Ames is not far from eight hundred people, of whom a large proportion are of New England origin. Intelligence is the rule among our inhabitants, and earnest

devotion to the cause of popular education is one of their most prominent characteristics. The population has, to some extent, outgrown our school house accommodations, yet perhaps few places in the west of nearly equal size, can boast of better schools than are found here. The time is near at hand when a fine union school house will be demanded by the pressing wants of our people, and there is no doubt, judging from present indications, but the duty of supplying this need will be cheerfully assumed, and promptly and creditably discharged by our citizens. Within the past year the town has been incorporated, and organized as an independent school district. Each of these undertakings should result in great benefit to the interests of the town, and especially to the cause of education.

Our winter term of school, just closed, has been under the control of H. Christman, a man who comes highly recommended as an earnest and successful educator. He has been aided by Miss Julia F. Tilden, an experienced teacher from Vermont, who has had charge of the primary department. The progress of scholars during the term has been very satisfactory. Those of our youth of either sex who are sufficiently advanced, can pursue the higher branches of education at the Iowa State Agricultural College, located here, as will hereafter be explained in this work.

CHURCHES.

If the number and respectability of church organizations, is to be taken as an index of the character of a community, we may justly be denominated a religious people. Beyond a care for educational interests, another characteristic of our Yankee nation, is their earnest and commendable desire to evangelize the world. The citizens of Ames in large proportion come of that puritan stock who made all other interests subservient to the paramount one of religious development.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

Our Methodist friends were characteristically foremost here in evangelical effort. During the early part of the year 1862, a church was organized in this township, consisting of only six members. We receive this latter fact, as evidence of the sparsely settled condition of the country, and also of the abundant faith-which upon all occasions, and under all circumstances, stimulates

and upholds the devoted followers of Wesley. While they receive undoubtingly the Scriptural assurance that "Paul may plant, and Apollos water, God alone can give the increase," they also fully recognize, not only the duty to plant and water, but the further obligation to stir the ground, and train the young shoots that an abundant harvest may be gathered. In the day when "His jewels" shall be made up, the self-sacrificing western itinerant will surely be remembered—for only thus can just recompense be given.

The little band of only six members, enjoyed, during their first year, the ministrations, of Rev. James Hankins. He was succeeded by Rev. J. M. Dudley, who had charge of the small but rapidly increasing flock for two years. Mr. Dudley gave place to Rev. W. S. Darwin, who continued with the church two years. During his second year, a church edifice was commenced, on the corner of Onondaga and Kellogg streets, on grounds donated to the society for that purpose, by Hon. John I. Blair. Rev. J. R. Williams, of Indiana, donated the sum of one hundred dollars to aid in the construction of the building. Many citizens of Ames and vicinity, also made very generous contributions for this object. The result of this effort was a very tasty and convenient church building surmounted by a modest looking belfry, containing a fine toned bell of appropriate size.

In the year 1867, Rev. T. P. Newlin succeeded Mr. Darwin, and in 1868 was himself succeeded by Rev. E. Kendall. Mr. Kendall remained with his charge two years, being very popular both with his church and the community. During his pastorate he succeeded in nearly relieving the church of financial obligations incurred in completing the house of worship. In obedience to the rules of the church, Mr. Kendall, after two years of acceptable and profitable labor, gave place to Rev. J. G. Eckles, the present pastor. The M. E. Church of Ames is now one of the most flourishing and promising organizations of this connection in Central Iowa, and the little band of six—seemingly the "seed scattered by the wayside"—has, under the fructifying influence of earnest and faithful teachers, and by God's blessing, increased, until it now numbers one hundred and thirty-one members. The ministrations of Mr. Eckles, the present pastor, are very acceptable to church and people, and his congregations, at each service, large and interested.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

The First Congregational Church of Ames was organized November 5th, 1865, with a membership of nine persons, and under the temporary pastoral charge of Rev. John White, formerly of Woodstock, Conn. From this small beginning the membership of the church, had, on the first of January 1871, reached the number of one hundred and twenty-three. The church edifice is a tasty looking and convenient building, of not very large dimensions, yet of sufficient size to accommodate the present attendance of worshippers. The lots, on which the church building stands, were donated to the society by Hon. John I. Blair, and W. W. Walker, Esq., accompanied by a gift in cash, of three hundred dollars, to aid in the construction of the building—a kindness strikingly characteristic of the above named gentlemen, and one which elicited the earnest and grateful acknowledgments of the church.

The fine toned Bell, at whose call worshippers here congregate, was the gift of Hon. Oakes Ames, of Mass. Other gifts from his hand, have challenged the admiration, and awakened the grateful feelings which the Congregational society, and the citizens of Ames, will ever cherish for the munificent donor.

Mr. White continued in charge of the church until the spring of 1868. By his judicious management, and strict attention to its many interests, its membership was very largely increased, and its influence and usefulness greatly advanced. Ill health compelled Mr. White to sever these pleasant and useful relations, and he was succeeded by Rev. S. Gilbert, a gentleman of great literary attainments, and of highly social tastes and habits. Owing to some difference of opinion among the members of the church, it seemed to the majority that its interests would be subserved by the withdrawal of Mr. Gilbert from its service. From April, 1869, until the following November, the church was without a Pastor or stated preaching. At the latter date, Rev. A. A. Baker assumed pastoral relations therewith. Mr. Baker is a man of more than ordinary scholarly attainments, and a very eloquent speaker. His connection with the church still continues and under his ministrations, its influence and prosperity is, and has been, of a satisfactory character, and it stands high in the estimation of our people, as an element of moral and religious strength in this community.

BAPTIST CHURCH.

The initiatory steps towards the organization of the Baptist Church at Ames, were taken July 11th, 1868. Fourteen persons were associated in this effort, and four others became united with them during the same month, and on September 5th, of that year, we find the membership increased to twenty-three. From October 1868, to April 1869, Rev. S. P. Day officiated as pastor, being succeeded in the latter month by Rev. H. A. Barden, a young man of good ability, under whose charge the church continued until the following October, making good progress in material strength, and with several additions to its membership.

At the New Year, 1870, Rev. S. H. Mitchell took charge, since when, there has been a very marked improvement in its condition and prospects. From fourteen, the membership is increased to fifty, and instead of occasional service at uncertain periods, they have regular preaching, at stated times, by a devoted pastor of marked ability. Their present place of worship is Tomblin's Hall, but initiatory steps towards the erection of a church edifice have already been taken, which enterprise they hope to accomplish at no very distant time. This organization is in a decidedly promising condition.

THE DISCIPLES

Have had occasional preaching during the last year, though we believe they have no church organization here. During the last month a protracted effort has been made here by them, in a series of evening meetings at which Rev. McConnell, of Marshalltown, has been the principal speaker, but with what results is yet uncertain.

EPISCOPALIANS.

An effort has lately been made to establish here a Mission station of the Episcopal Church, with very encouraging prospect of success. Quite a number of persons, who were formerly members of this old established organization, have temporarily united themselves with other churches here, with the understanding that the establishment of service by the "Mother Church," should leave them free to withdraw from the connection thus made.

These churches can now well spare the support of these persons, if indeed the effort being made should prove successful, Episcopal lay service will soon be established, with promise of Mission service monthly, or oftener. Friends of the church in-

dulge earnest hope that the desire of years is about to be accomplished, and they again blessed by the ministrations of the church in whose bosom their childhood and youth were spent, and to whose beautiful service and form of worship they are devotedly attached.

MASONIC.

Arcadia Lodge, No. 249 A. F. & A. M., was organized U. D. in November 1868, with twelve members. It received its charter in June 1869. The present membership of this lodge is thirty-three. Regular communications are held on the Thursday evening, on, or before the full moon in each month.

During the early part of the present year, a new and commodious hall was leased, and the lodge now meets therein. This hall is very neatly and tastily fitted up and adorned—located on Onondaga street, over the hardware store of Messrs. Lucas & Foster. This organization is in a very healthy and promising condition. Its present officers are, W. D. Lucas, W. M.; S. L. Lucas, S. W.; H. T. Martin, J. W.; H. P. Lods, Treas.; D. A. Bigelow, Sec'y; W. H. Granger, Sen. D.; Geo. R. Turner, Jun. D.; Isaac Black, Sen. S.; W. G. Wright, Jun. S.; W. G. Wright, Tyler.

INCORPORATION OF THE TOWN.

In the fall of 1869, steps were taken to incorporate the town of Ames, and the project, on being submitted to the popular vote, was approved by a large majority. At the first election of municipal officers, Wm. West, Esq., was elected Mayor. He soon after resigned and was succeeded by Wm. D. Lucas, Esq. Mr. Lucas was re-elected at the regular election in March 1870, continuing in office until March 1871. The results of incorporation have been very satisfactory. Under municipal control and guidance, public improvements have been undertaken, such as drainage, grading of streets, building of sidewalks, &c. Concert of purpose and action have also been induced in putting out shade trees, and otherwise beautifying and adorning the town.

There is at present no difference of opinion, among our citizens, in regard to the wisdom of the act of incorporation, and all classes are earnest in the hope that ere long Ames will be a model town in appearance, as it already is, in the morals and intelligence of its citizens.

The present municipal officers are—

CYRUS E. TURNER, *Mayor*.

P. C. COMPTON, *Recorder*.

D. A. BIGELOW, S. S. PAXTON, W. G. WRIGHT, MILTON EVANS, and HENRY BOYD, *Trustees*.

W. D. LUCAS, *Treasurer*.

I. L. SMITH, *Assessor and Street Commissioner*.

N. A. RAINBOLT, *City Attorney*.

JOSEPH GUINTER, *Marshal*.

BUSINESS HOUSES.

A brief reference to the business interests of Ames, will, we trust, be deemed of sufficient importance to warrant insertion here. Only two dry goods stores are at present operating in this town, Messrs. Bigelow, Huntington & Tilden, and Alexander & Maxwell. Each of these houses does a large, and no doubt, profitable business. The assortment of goods here found is full, embracing every known article in the line, from a cambric needle to a suit of broadcloth. We are not advised as to the amount of capital invested by either of these houses, or of the amount of sales per year. They buy mostly for cash, and for the last two years Messrs. Bigelow, Huntington & Tilden have paid Government license as wholesale dealers, and Messrs. Alexander & Maxwell are thriving, if the rubicund and pleasant face of "Max" can be taken as an index of satisfied desires.

In the hardware line are the old established house of Boyd Brothers, (late McLain & Boyd), and the firm of Lucas & Foster. The stock of hardware kept by either of these houses is full and complete, and the several members of each firm are young men of good business capacity, whose interests are fully identified with those of our town and county. Boyd Bros., in addition to their hardware trade, deal largely in wagons and agricultural implements. Messrs. Lucas & Foster also keep for sale all kinds of the most approved implements for farmers' use.

In the line of lumber, we have a branch of the house of Lamb & Son, of Clinton, one of the largest manufacturers of Lumber in the west. Their branch here is in charge of C. D. Norman, a young man of fine business capacity. He understands the advantage of the "nimble sixpence," and sells cheap. At the old lumber yard of Giles Cook, late Cook & Stewart, now W. A.

Markham, is always found a full assortment in this line of trade. Mr. Markham has inherited from Mr. Cook his system of fair-dealing and his gentlemanly and accommodating manners. At either of these houses full bills of building lumber, including sash, doors, lath, finishing lumber, and blinds can always be had at an hour's notice.

As dealers in grain and all kinds of farm produce, Evans & Co. are outdone by few western firms. Fair dealing is their motto, by a constant adherence to which, they have built up an enviable business reputation. "Milt's" honesty has passed into a proverb, and is not "Walt." his brother? They do a large, and we trust, a profitable business. They are at present engaged in the erection of a fine brick business block, adjoining their old warehouse.

The Banking House of Wm. D. Lucas occupies the lower story of Cook's brick block, and is fitted up in a very tasty manner. Mr. Lucas is a first class business man, and in every way reliable. He does the usual business of a western banker, and is also engaged quite extensively in the loaning of money. His card will be found in another part of this work.

B. Read & Co. supply our citizens with meat, both fresh and salt, of the finest quality. Ben knows a fat steer from a "scallowag"—and his customers know when they buy of him they get meat and nothing else.

In this line we also find Heizer & Bro. The competition raised by Mat's. advent, as a butcher, has had a tendency to reduce prices and ensure daily supply. Mat. also knows good from evil, as his fine juicy sirloins daily testify.

Two drug stores grace our quiet town, dispensing the many "balms of Gilead" to poor suffering humanity. Starr & Breneman, in addition to drugs, keep all the standard books used in our schools, together with the leading magazines and newspapers of our country. Bousquet & Co. are accommodating and reliable dealers and keep a fine stock of goods in their line.

Several milliners and dress-makers, attend to the personal adornment of our good wives and daughters. The old established house of the Sweeney sisters is very reliable. They know their business and attend to it, thus gaining the approbation of their patrons, and peace of mind. The same remark applies with equal truth to Mrs. Lloyd. Mrs. Bacon, and Mrs. Wood, though newly established here, exhibit fine taste, and have had much experience, particularly in the dress-making line.

In the grocery line, Granger & Clark are hard to beat. Their stock includes every article known to the trade, both staple and fancy. They are straightforward, honorable men to deal with and understand their business.

Elliott & Bain are enterprising business men, also in the grocery trade. They, too, know the value of a good business reputation. They deal fairly and sell cheap.

Worick & Co., also in this line, keep a fine stock of staple and fancy groceries. The three houses here spoken of are newly established, and their stocks new, and fresh.

Do you play Billiards? Beecher, who is an oft quoted authority, says the game is innocent. Palmatier's rooms are well kept, and are very quiet. Brad. is also an adept in the tonsorial art, besides being a clever fellow generally.

As professors of the healing art, we have Doctors Bradley & Richmond, and Dr. S. J. Starr, of the firm of Starr & Breneman. If the good health of our community is to be attributed to their skill, it cannot be too highly commended.

The insurance interest is well represented here. D. W. Gage, N. H. Granger, N. A. Rainbolt, Robt. Marshall and R. B. Taylor, all, represent reliable insurance companies. Mr. Taylor is agent for the Underwriter's Agency, and the Security Life of N. Y.

Of Attorneys we have a full supply,—C. E. Turner, Dan McCarthy, D. W. Gage, N. A. Rainbolt, and J. L. Luckey, each and all well qualified to dispense legal advice. No town in the west of equal size or pretensions, has a more reliable class of attorneys than Ames.

In the furniture line, Wheeler & Lamb are the only dealers here. They have always on hand a full supply of goods which they sell at fair rates.

The "West House"—Wm. West, proprietor, needs no word of commendation here. Since the burning of the Ames Hotel, some weeks since, this is the only hotel in the place. Our friend West has read and given heed to the wise saying,—by their works shall ye know them." His house is literally a "home" to those who tarry with him.

We have also Blacksmiths, Wagon Makers, Shoemakers and Jewelers. Messrs. Wright & Child may be mentioned as the only concern in Ames, uniting the two trades of wagon making and blacksmithing. They are young men of integrity, and understand

their business. As a shoemaker, L. DeLorme needs fear no competition for he is perfect in his art. C. Johnson also understands caring for the "soles" of our people.

THE PRESS.

Little need, or may be said of the press, of Ames. We have here the Weekly *Intelligencer*, a paper of which any locality might well be proud. It is edited and published by A. McFadden, a man who has had years of experience as a newspaper publisher and editor. No paper in our State is more ably conducted, and what is of great importance to its readers, its teachings are all pure, both in politics and morals. The paper is now in its third year. Though at the first an experiment merely, it has grown to be, not only a success to itself, but a necessity to our citizens. It is now one of the *institutions* of Ames and Story County.

PRESENT RAILROAD PROSPECTS OF AMES.

No more fitting close of this history of our town can be given, than an account of our present railroad prospects affords. The final collapse of the Iowa & Minnesota Railroad project was of so perfect a nature, as to preclude all hope of its resurrection, and while the more sanguine of our people cherished the faith that at some time, and through some agencies then unknown or unsuspected, direct railroad connection with the capital of our State would be established, yet all classes of our citizens ceased active labor pointing in that direction. But while this state of quiescence existed, we were ready to adopt the first feasible plan, promising the completion of this long desired improvement.

During the summer of 1870, propositions were made through Messrs. Polk and Hubbell, of Des Moines, for an arrangement by which the franchises of the I. & M. Co., consisting of the road bed, and partially secured right of way from Ames to the line of Polk County, and a judgment lately obtained against that portion of the road in Polk county, should be assigned to Hon. B. F. Allen, of Des Moines. The object of this proposed arrangement was the completion, at an early day, of the road from Des Moines to Ames by a new company about to be organized. In September of that year, this arrangement was perfected, and the Des Moines & Minnesota railroad company organized, with stipulations that the road from Des Moines to Ames should be completed during the

year 1871. The board of directors consisted of persons of known business integrity and energy.

The ultimate object of this new corporation was, not only to complete and put in operation the short line from Ames to Des Moines, but beyond that to reach north by way of Mankato to St. Paul, thus securing direct and nearly immediate railroad connection with the lumber regions of Minnesota and northwestern Wisconsin, having also a southern connection leading ultimately to St. Louis, in one direction, and through Kansas and the Cherokee country to Galveston in another. Commendable and promising as this enterprise seemed in its conception, pregnant with assured benefits to all the points in central Iowa which would be reached by the projected line, yet means must be provided, and the aid of practical railroad men enlisted, before its accomplishment could be hoped for. The result of effort in this direction, so far as relates to material aid, is of a highly satisfactory nature.

The means at hand may be summed up as follows :

The road bed from Ames to Polk city, valued at about.....	\$ 40,000
Five per cent. tax in Washington township, say.....	14,000
Three per cent. tax in Madison Township, Polk County, about.....	18,000
Polk County Swamp Land estimated.....	78,000
Total.....	\$150,000

And should this be insufficient, a tax of $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in the city of Des Moines would be in addition, say \$60,000. The former sum is assured, and the latter can at any time be voted, for the citizens of Des Moines are fully alive to the importance of this enterprise to that city.

In March last propositions were received from Col. E. P. Greeley, President of the Milwaukee & Nashua Railroad Company, with a view to consolidate the interests of that company, with the Des Moines & Minnesota Company, forming a continuous line of road from Chickasaw, on the Dakota branch of the Milwaukee and St. Paul road, by way of Nashua, Ackley, and Ames to Des Moines. This project, while it promised the early building of this entire line, would not only give us the desired connection with the lumber districts of Minnesota and Wisconsin, but in addition, open to us the market of Milwaukee, thus giving us everything desired in a

northern connection and promising all we had contemplated at the south. The arrangement, so far as the agency of Col. Greeley goes, has been consummated; the entire line surveyed, and the result of this survey is now in the hands of the chief engineer of the Milwaukee & St. Paul Company, by whom it will soon be presented to the Board of Directors. We have, through Col. Greeley, the assurance of the President of that Company, that this important line of road will be pushed to immediate completion. Of this, there seems now no reasonable ground for doubt. By the new year Ames, will be joined to Des Moines by iron bands, and another year, will bring us the daily arrival of trains from the far north and also from the balmy south. The "hope" which has been our inspiration in railroad effort, will no longer be "deferred," but will have reached its full fruition. Added to this line of railroad, of which we are assured, we have promise of another line, which will, no doubt, ere long be opened, having for objective points, Webster City at the north, and Newton at the southeast of us, forming in one direction connection with a road now nearly completed to St. Louis, and in the other direction, with a contemplated line leading to the far northwest. Ames will then become an important point on these great thoroughfares, situated as it is, on the line of the C. & N. W. R. R.,—the seat of one of the most flourishing educational institutions in the west—and surrounded and supported, by one of the finest agricultural districts in the State.

IOWA STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

In setting forth the comparative advantages of this locality, the Iowa State Agricultural College, situated here, deserves prominent mention, as its established success places it high in the list of this class of educational agencies. The opinion has to some extent obtained, not only among men of cultivated minds, but also among other classes of people, that the system of education represented by institutions of this nature, can never be made a practical success. The earlier and fruitless efforts in this direction should be regarded as simply experimental, and their failure attributed, not to any radical defect in the system, but to some latent causes not then understood. Not until within a comparatively short period of time, has it been generally conceded that those pursuing the humble avocation of farming, or engaged in any other industrial pursuit, needed, or could make useful in their calling, scientific knowledge. The old routine of farm labor, almost universally followed until within a score of years, and still by far too common among American farmers, forbade the application of what its votaries styled "book farming," in its practice. All improvements of those implements used in agricultural pursuits, have been regarded as innovations, by that class of men, who have more reverence for the follies of their fathers, than for the wisdom developed by scientific research.

The man who, in early times, balanced the bushel of corn upon his horse, with a stone of equal weight, may be accounted wise in comparison with the farmer of the present day, who persists in the cultivation of his impoverished acres, without system or knowledge, adhering to the unprofitable and ruinous ways of his ancestors, simply because those ways have descended to him as an heirloom. But, despite the opposition of self-wise fogies, the wooden mold-board has given place to that of burnished steel, and the primitive hand sickle has been supplanted by the seemingly perfect

reaper of the present day. But while the invention and perfection of farm machinery has relieved the tiller of the soil of half his labors, changing indeed the whole system of farming as practiced by our fathers—multiplying almost without limit the gross agricultural products of our country, it has, also, by encouraging wide, rather than good cultivation, inaugurated and is fostering a system (if that may be termed systematic which is utterly devoid of system), which, in the absence of scientific knowledge, and its practical application to farming, is likely to prove so exhaustive to the soil as to result in disaster and ruin. Experience, though it may have been lightly regarded, is teaching us the valuable, and much needed lesson, that a knowledge of the chemical combinations of the different soils and the adaptation of certain crops to these different soils, is not only needful, but indispensable to successful farming. The agriculturalist is not benefitted by that knowledge which enables him to secure large and certain crops, unless with it comes the greater and more important lesson, by which he is taught, not only the necessity of avoiding, but also the way to avoid the ruin of his land by an injudicious system of cultivation. The true mission of agricultural colleges is to supply the industrial classes with a familiar understanding, not only of the theory, but also the practice, of the employment or pursuit in life which they may individually adopt; not as was formerly believed, and too generally practiced—to found a rural home where the sons of the rich, might be taught in amateur farming at the public charge. Institutions deserving the name of agricultural colleges, now teach such branches of science as will prove an intelligent guide to the practical farmer or housewife—making learning auxiliary to physical effort—guiding the strong hand by the active brain, thus utilizing scientific knowledge and giving dignity to labor. The necessity for systematic improvement in agriculture has long been realized by those who have given this subject earnest thought and men of philanthropic proclivities, have, from time to time, sought out “many inventions” by which they have hoped to lessen the labors, and increase the happiness, of the industrial classes. These efforts have been successful in the attainment of the end sought in the degree that they have impressed the minds of those in whose interest they have been undertaken, of the necessity for scholarly attainments and mental culture, to properly fit a man to engage in any pursuit in life, however humble, with a fair prospect of suc-

cess. While it is true, that for untold centuries, nature in her silent and mysterious operations has been, in the great west, maturing the elements of fabulous agricultural wealth, we should bear in mind in connection with this truth, that in the portions of our country already subjected to a long course of *American* cultivation these stores of latent wealth have only been saved from utter exhaustion by artificial appliances. Nature, is true to herself, and we cannot, with impunity, appropriate to our use the riches of mother earth without recompense. But for the aid of science, as applied to agriculture, the reclamation of these wasted lands would of necessity have been left to her subtle but tardy hand.

The act which established the Iowa Agricultural College, for the purpose of giving academic instruction to the industrial classes, was passed by the State Legislature in eighteen hundred and fifty-eight. By this act, the sum of ten thousand dollars was appropriated, for the purchase of a farm for the location of the college buildings, and for experiments in agriculture. While it is true that in the course of events this enterprise would have found successful advocates, yet every citizen of our noble State should feel a grateful sense of obligation to those far-seeing and earnest men, who were its early and enthusiastic friends. The names of the most prominent of these noble men should ever be found associated with the enterprise they so ably aided to inaugurate. Hon. R. A. Richardson, Hon. B. F. Gue, Hon. Wm. Lundy, Hon. Chas. Foster, J. B. Grinnell, Suel Foster, and Wm. Duane Wilson will ever be regarded in this connection, as the benefactors of the citizens of our State.

The first Board of Trustees, appointed under the act, consisted of the following named gentlemen: M. W. Robinson, Timothy Day, John Wright, G. W. F. Sherwin, Richard Gaines, Suel Foster, J. W. Henderson, E. G. Day, John Pattee, Peter Melendy, Gov. R. P. Lowe and Wm. Duane Wilson. The last named gentleman was, for many years, the efficient Secretary of the board of trustees.

In eighteen hundred and fifty-nine the trustees selected, and purchased, a farm of six hundred and forty acres, situated in Washington township, Story county, on the line of the Cedar Rapids and Missouri River Railway. When we consider that, up to this time, this great enterprise had no well founded hope of aid except from our own State and people, we are surprised that its

originators were so sanguine of success as their acts show them to have been.

In eighteen hundred and sixty-two, notwithstanding the great and unusual burdens of the National Government, Congress passed a bill, "donating public lands to the several States and Territories which may found colleges for the benefit of agriculture and the mechanic arts." By this munificent grant the State of Iowa became entitled to thirty thousand acres of land, for each of her Senators and Representatives in Congress, or an aggregate of two hundred and forty thousand acres. By the provisions of the Act of Congress, any State accepting the grant was required to erect the necessary college buildings, within five years from the time of such acceptance, without using any of the proceeds of the land for that purpose. At the special session of our Legislature in September 1862, the State of Iowa accepted this grant, with all the conditions imposed by the act of Congress. Peter Melendy was appointed by the Governor to select the lands embraced in the grant, and in October of the same year, entered upon his duties.

At the minimum price the State was entitled to two hundred and forty thousand acres, but as, after a protracted and thorough examination Mr. Melendy selected some fifty thousand acres of railroad land at double the minimum price, the real amount, certified to the State under the Congressional grant, was two hundred and four thousand three hundred and nine acres—being about three hundred and nineteen sections, equal to nearly nine congressional townships of land. At the next regular session of our Legislature held in the winter of 1864, these lands were confirmed as a perpetual endowment to the Iowa State Agricultural College.

When the experimental farm was located in Story County, the College received in donations from that, and the adjoining county of Boone, and by individual contributions in those counties, the sum of twenty-one thousand three hundred and fifty-five dollars.

We extract from the Annual of the State Agricultural College for 1871, from which source most of the statistics embodied herein are drawn, the following list in detail of

APPROPRIATIONS MADE BY THE STATE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE
AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

"In the act establishing an Agricultural College, passed by

the Seventh General Assembly in 1858, there were appropriated by the State—

For the purchase and improvement of land.....	\$10,000.00
For the use and benefit of the College, the proceeds of the sale of five sections of land, known as "Capitol Lands." Estimated at..	16,000.00
Total previous to Congressional grant.....	\$26,000.00

In compliance with the conditions of the Congressional Land Grant, there have been appropriated by the State the following sums:

1862 *By Ninth General Assembly—Extra Session.*

Sept. 11. For location of Congressional Grant.....\$ 1,000.00—\$ 1,000.00

1864 *By Tenth General Assembly.*

Mar. 22. To aid in erection of college building.....\$20,000.00—\$20,000.00

1866 *By Eleventh General Assembly.*

April 2. For completing college building\$91,000.00—\$91,000.00

1868 *By Twelfth General Assembly.*

April 3. For heating and cooking apparatus.....\$10,000.00
 For professors' houses..... 12,000.00
 For water, clocks and bell 2,000.00
 For outbuildings and ornamental grounds..... 1,000.00
 For extra work on college building..... 3,000.00
 For use of farm, and other purposes..... 9,750.00
 April 8. For completing college building..... 10,000.00—\$47,750.00

1870 *By Thirteenth General Assembly.*

April 13. For extending and completing wings of college building.....\$50,000.00
 For building and completing laboratory .. 5,000.00
 For erection and completion of workshop..... 5,000.00
 For erection of gas house..... 500.00
 For farm improvements..... 2,000.00
 For seeds and plants for experimental grounds..... 500.00

For tile draining.....	1,000.00	
For professor's dwelling-house..	4,500.00—	\$68,500.00
<hr/>		
Total appropriation since Congressional Land Grant..		\$228,250.00
Add previous appropriations,		26,000.00
<hr/>		
Total appropriations since founding of college.....		\$254,250.00"

The endowment fund of the college consists of two hundred and four thousand three hundred and nine acres of land, embracing all which was received by the State under the Congressional grant.

"At the same session of the Legislature in which this munificent endowment was confirmed to the Agricultural College, Governor Kirkwood and Senators Gue and Clarkson formed a scheme for realizing an immediate fund by leasing the lands, instead of offering them for sale. This scheme was approved by the Legislature and passed into a law which authorizes the trustees to lease for a term of ten years any of the endowment lands. The lessee by the terms of the act pays annually in advance eight per cent. interest on the appraised value of the land, with a right to purchase at the expiration of the lease. In the case of failure in the prompt payment of the interest when due, the land with all improvements reverts to the College.

The lands embraced in the grant were subsequently appraised, and Hon. Geo. W. Bassett was appointed Agent of the Board at Fort Dodge, for the granting of leases, and the collection of interest money accruing therefrom.

Under the efficient management of Mr. Bassett the lands have been leased, and the proceeds, when fully paid in, amount annually to thirty-six thousand dollars; which sum is "appropriated," according to the terms of the Congressional grant, "to the endowment, support and maintenance" of the Agricultural College. Owing, however, to the forfeitures on account of the non-payment of interest when due, the actual annual income of the College is not above thirty-one thousand dollars."

Thus it may be seen on what basis this institution rests, and how justly every citizen of our State regards it with grateful pride. It may not be deemed improper to insert here the text of the special act of our legislature, forbidding the sale of intoxicating liquors within two miles of the college.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa,
That from and after the fourth of July next, no person shall open, maintain, or conduct, any shop or other place for the sale of wine, beer, or spirituous liquors, or sell the same at any place within a distance of two miles from the Agricultural College, in Story

county: *Provided*, That the same may be sold for sacramental, mechanical, medical, or culinary purposes.

Any person violating the provisions of this act shall be punished on conviction by any court of competent jurisdiction, by a fine not exceeding fifty dollars for each offense, or by imprisonment in the county jail for a time not exceeding thirty days, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Approved, April 7, 1868.

It is thus seen that in addition to the usual regulations of a sanitary nature established by all educational institutions, the law-makers of Iowa have enacted this stringent law for the purpose of protecting the students of this institution against those dangerous, and often fatal temptations to whose dreadful influences they are so frequently subjected. This law has the hearty approval of our citizens, and its violations if any are of a covert nature. We regret that want of space forbids the insertion here of many other facts, of a statistical sort, and others, relating to the course of experiments already inaugurated at the college farm, and their promised results as indicated by the reports of the several departments. A chapter also on the government, police regulation, and general management of the College and Farm would be highly instructive, and of great interest, not only to those who contemplate availing themselves of the advantages offered by the institution, but to the general reader. Those, into whose hands this little work may fall, and who desire information in detail on the subjects referred to, can, by addressing the Secretary of the Faculty procure a copy of the College Annual for 1871. We append further extracts from that work, of a general interest, mainly with a view to show forth the present condition of the institution. We commence with the

EXPERIMENTAL FARM.

"The farm originally purchased for the use of the Agricultural College, comprises six hundred and forty-eight acres, and furnishes a great variety of soils for different experiments. It is watered on the east side by Squaw creek, and by Clear creek on the north; and near the center are two never failing springs of pure water. On three sides, east, north, and west, the farm is bordered by groves of timber, embracing in all one hundred and sixty acres of the finest woodland. The entire farm is fenced; about three hundred acres are under the plow, and are cultivated by the labor of students. By vote of the Board of Trustees, May 1870, an

addition of one hundred and ninety acres, lying north of the farm, has lately been purchased. This tract will supply grazing for the stock, which must largely increase to answer the necessities of the College."

The design of the State, as indicated by the action of the Legislature, is to enlarge and multiply the College buildings proper, and also add to the general facilities for experimenting in all those branches of education in any manner relating to farm culture. These improvements will be made from year to year, no doubt as fast as possible, having due regard to the economical expenditure of appropriations made for this object. The day is long passed, when the institution itself can be denominated experimental, however the enterprise might have been regarded at the outset. The policy now is to lay foundation walls sufficiently broad, and thereon as time passes, erect such superstructures as shall be a credit and source of pride years hence to the citizens of our rapidly growing commonwealth. We insert here the following from the College Annual.

COLLEGE BUILDINGS.

"The main College Building which contains the dormitories, recitation rooms, chapel, library, museum, &c., &c., is one hundred and fifty-seven, by sixty-one feet on the ground, and four stories high, with a basement for dining-room, kitchen, store-rooms, &c., &c. It is located in the center of an enclosure of one hundred and ninety acres, which contains the vegetable garden, vineyard, orchard, nursery, ornamental grounds, and various buildings belonging to the College. Two new wings of the main building, for which the last legislature appropriated fifty thousand dollars, are being constructed, and will be ready for occupation in the spring of 1872. The present building supplies dormitories for a hundred and sixty students. When the wings are added it will accommodate two hundred and twenty.

West of the college building are the Work Shop, and Laboratory; the former a wooden building furnished with suitable tools, and containing a steam engine which drives various machines for laundry and other purposes; the latter a brick structure sixty by thirty feet, with one story for students in analytical chemistry, and a basement which furnishes apparatus and lecture rooms, for general chemistry and physics. Southward from the college at proper distances from each other, are three professor's houses built of brick, one in process of construction for Prof. Anthony, the other two being the residences of Prof. Jones and the President.

ORNAMENTAL GROUNDS.

The grounds in the vicinity of the college building have been laid out with care, and ornamented with lawns, shrubbery, and

trees. A broad terrace immediately in front is bordered with flowering plants and shrubs. Over a mile of graveled road has already been constructed, and more than a thousand evergreens planted in groups on the borders. It is believed that in a few years the college grounds will become the finest specimen of landscape gardening in the state."

The laws which govern and regulate the State Agricultural College prescribe the following course of study. We subjoin the text of the act referred to, relating to this subject.

"The course of instruction in said college shall include the following branches, to-wit: Natural Philosophy, Chemistry, Botany, Horticulture, Fruit growing, Forestry, Geology, Mineralogy, Animal and Vegetable Anatomy, Meteorology, Entomology, Zoology, Veterinary Art, Plane Mensuration, Leveling, Surveying, Book Keeping, and such Mechanic Arts as are directly connected with Agriculture; and also such other studies as the Trustees may from time to time prescribe not inconsistent with the purposes of this act."

Reference to the above act discloses the additional fact that an average of two and a half hours per day of manual labor is required from each student, to be as regularly performed as the daily recitations. Experience is daily confirming the opinion that this regulation is of a very salutary nature. "Protracted study without adequate exercise is injurious alike to muscle and brain." With rare exceptions, the students have engaged in daily out-door work with a heartiness which has been very gratifying to the officers of the College.

"The purposes which manual labor subserves in the Agricultural College may be briefly stated:

1. It is one of the educating forces. Our system, and method of instruction, make manual labor by the students indispensable. It is impossible to illustrate the application of the principles of science to processes in the industrial arts, without daily practice of the eye and hand. It is our earnest intention, to make scientific knowledge practical and familiar, by applying it to its various uses.

- 2 It is intended, that manual labor shall give the student expertness in one or more of the different handicrafts. The farm, garden, nursery, orchard, and workshop, are our auxiliaries in the accomplishment of this important purpose."

We close this chapter with the following extract from the College Annual, relating to the appointment and examination of

candidates seeking admission to the institution, together with the ordinary expenses per College term :

APPOINTMENT.

The present College building accommodates one hundred and sixty students. By law, each representative district is entitled to send one person for each member in the Assembly. Candidates for admission should, when possible, make application through the superintendent of common schools for their county, and his certificate of good character and scholarship, will give preference over other applicants equally deserving. Should any district fail to send its quota at the beginning of the term, or should rooms be vacant after the several districts are fully represented, then any persons, residents of the State, of good character and scholarship, and of proper age, will be received upon application to the President; care being taken to distribute the students equally, as near as may be, over the State.

The preparatory department, heretofore belonging to the College has been discontinued.

No person may enter the Freshman class at an earlier age than fourteen years, nor any higher class except with a corresponding increase of age. Parents are earnestly advised, not to send their children here at an earlier age than sixteen years, unless they have attained to unusual maturity of character.

EXAMINATION.

Candidates for admission will be examined in English Grammar, Reading, Writing, Spelling, Geography, Arithmetic, and the Rudiments of Algebra so far as Simple Equations. These several branches, lie at the foundation of a good scholarship, and proficiency in each and all of these will be a condition of admission.

Accepted candidates will deposit \$10 with the Cashier as security for the payment of their bills, and have their names entered upon his books, after which they are considered as being members of the college, in full standing and entitled to all its privileges.

A. S. WELCH, Pres., and Prof. of Moral & Mental Philosophy.

EXPENSES.

Students pay actual cost for board, fires, light, laundry, use of musical instruments, damages to the property of the College when caused by themselves, a fair part of the chemicals consumed by themselves, care and general repairs of the College buildings and furniture, and for such other incidental expenses as specially belong to them as a body.

Students pay nothing for tuition and rent, nor for the general expenses of the College. Students are paid for their labor at its value to the College, the rate per hour varying from three to nine cents.

Hereafter upon entering the College, each student will deposit ten dollars with the Cashier, as a security for the payment of his

bills. He will settle all bills for each month, at the Cashier's office, on the second Saturday of the month following, the original deposit being retained till final settlement. Any student who neglects to make such monthly settlement, except for reasons satisfactory to the President, may be dismissed by him for such neglect.

Damages to the College property will be charged to the damager if known, but if its author is undiscovered it will be assessed upon the section where it occurs, or upon the whole school.

Students supply themselves with bedding and towels, and with carpets if they desire them. All other furniture, including mattresses, is supplied by the College.

For the past year the rates of charge have been as follows:

For board.....	\$3.00 per week.
For fire and lights.....	25 " "
For use of piano.....	50 " "
For laundry,.....(per dozen pieces.).....	50

A fair estimate of expenses for next year may be set down as follows:

For board 36 weeks.....	\$108.00	\$108.00
For laundry.....	5.00 to	15.00
For fire and lights.....	9.00	9.00
For repairs and incidental expenses.....	9.00	9.00
For books and stationery.....	10.00 to	20.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$141.00 to	\$161.00

In addition to the above, charges will be made to students of certain classes as follows:

For use of piano and organ.....	\$18.00
For chemicals.....	\$10.00 to \$20.00

Students' earnings vary with their age, health, strength, and previous knowledge and skill, the time they devote to labor, and their general efficiency. The past year students have earned in some instances as much as \$120, and have, by economy, fully paid their College expenses. An average of earnings for the past year has been \$54, including the young, the sick, and the inexperienced.

On the next page will be found a list of the present college faculty.

FACULTY.

A. S. WELCH, A. M.,
President and Professor of Mental and Moral Philosophy.

GEO. W. JONES, JR., A. M.,
Professor of Mathematics.

Professor of Agriculture.

JAMES MATHEWS,
Professor of Pomology.

WILLIAM A. ANTHONY, B. Ph.,
Professor of Physics and Mechanics.

ALBERT E. FOOTE, M. D.,
Professor of Chemistry.

GENERAL JAMES L. GEDDES,
Professor of Military Tactics and Engineering.

CHARLES E. BESSEY, B. S.,
Instructor in Botany and Horticulture.

I. P. ROBERTS,
Superintendent of the Farm.

MARY LOVELACE,
Preceptress.

AUGUSTA MATHEWS,
Teacher of Piano Music.

MARY McDONALD,
Matron.

CHARLES E. BESSEY,
Secretary of the Faculty.

*The duties of this professorship are divided for the time being between the President, Prof. Mathews, and Supt. Roberts.

MILTON EVANS.

M. EVANS & CO.,

WALT. EVANS.

GRAIN AND PRODUCE MERCHANTS,

AMES, STORY COUNTY, IOWA.

Cash paid for Grain, Poultry, Butter and Eggs. Dealers in all kinds of Agricultural Implements.

GRANGER & CLARK,

Dealers in

Choice Family GROCERIES, Fancy Fruits and Candies,

CANNED FRUITS, &C.

Always a full supply of good on hand of the BEST quality in market.

& Iced Lemonade and Soda Water that "Can't be Beat."

D. W. GAGE,

Attorney at Law and U. S. Commissioner.

Gives especial attention to cases in Bankruptcy.

J. L. LUCKEY,

ATTORNEY AT LAW.

LOAN, LAND, AND COLLECTION AGENT,

Office at the Bank.]

AMES, IOWA.

STARR & BRENNEMAN,

Dealers in

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FANCY AND TOILET ARTICLES.

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Goods sold low for ready Cash.

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AND AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS,

AMES, STORY COUNTY, IOWA.

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Dealers in

Upholstery, Furniture and Undertaker.

AMES, STORY COUNTY, IOWA.

MISSES SWEENEY

Dealers in

MILLINERY AND FANCY GOODS,

New Brick Block, near Depot, Ames, Iowa.

A long experience in the Millinery business gives them assurance that all work entrusted to them will give satisfaction.

DRS. BRADLEY & RICHMOND,

PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS,

AMES, STORY COUNTY, IOWA.

Office Four Doors North of West's Hotel.